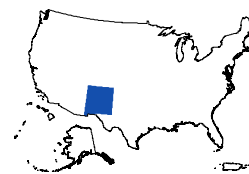


2000 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



Customer Focus—

Terry Cone, Roosevelt County, New Mexico

Terry Cone farms nearly 440 acres in the irrigated cropland, Curry and Roosevelt Counties geographical priority area in eastern New Mexico. Because the area is semi-arid and depends on the declining Ogallala Aquifer, area producers are open to innovative techniques and programs to make the best use of water resources. Terry has coupled EQIP and a unique low-interest loan program offered by the Roosevelt County Electric Cooperative to convert three center pivot sprinkler systems to Low Energy Precision Application (LEPA) systems. Since conversion, he has increased irrigation efficiency from 60 percent to 90 percent and is saving 2 acre-inches of water per acre.

New Mexico Summary

Overview

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) continues to be a high profile conservation program in New Mexico. Applications and requests for funds continue to far exceed the available budget. In FY 2000, 221 applications, which requested \$2,147,000, were received under the Statewide Resource Concerns portion of EQIP. Some 177 applications obligating \$1,450,000 were accepted. In the 22 geographic priority areas in the State, 224 applications requesting \$3,443,000 were received from interested landowners. A total of 160 applications obligating \$2,750,000 were accepted. These statistics do not include that portion of the main Navajo Nation, which is located in New Mexico, but administered by NRCS in Arizona.

Accomplishments

With the addition of FY 2000 contracts, there are now approximately 1,466 active EQIP contracts in NM. Nearly \$15.4 million of financial assistance is obligated through these contracts. Hundreds of conservation practices, including non-cost-shared management practices, are being installed each year, with an emphasis on rangeland and cropland improvements.

Outlook

Significant progress is being realized in conserving New Mexico resources. Recent drought conditions, along with some extremely damaging and costly major fires, have helped the agricultural community and general public better appreciate the need for long-term efforts to address resource concerns. Additional funding would provide the economic incentive to invest in such long-term solutions.

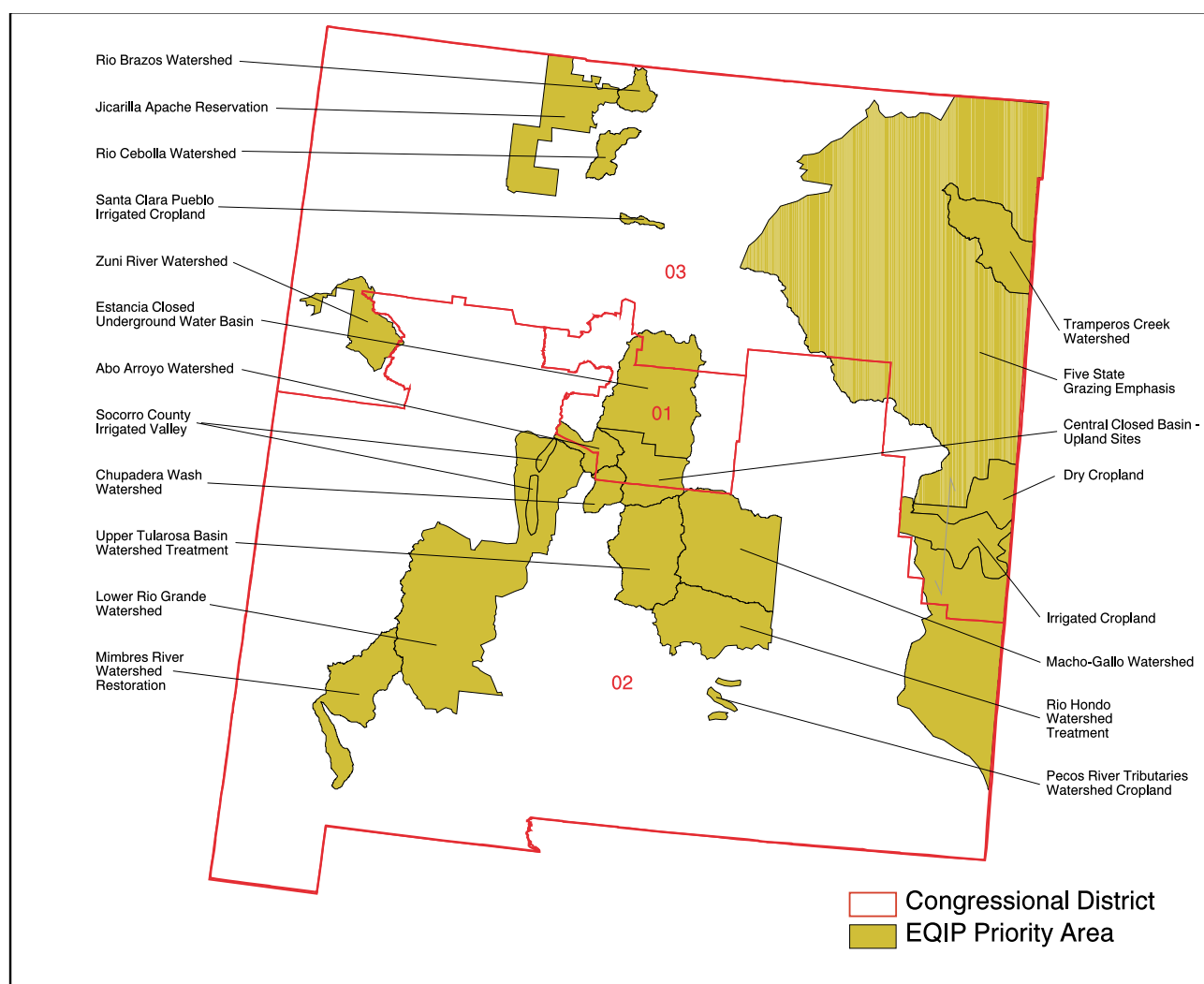
State Contact

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Terry Cone



New Mexico EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional Districts



New Mexico EQIP Dollars and Contracts by Congressional District

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2000		Cumulative Total (97-00)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 0	\$1,445,475	172	\$4,899,925	619
District 1	126,909	12	824,192	85
District 2	1,305,534	75	4,992,394	370
District 3	1,443,256	95	4,648,798	392
State Totals	\$4,321,174	354	\$15,365,309	1,466

Note: EQIP contracts for each Congressional District are estimated from Conservation Priority Areas which may include more than one district. Congressional District 0 = EQIP Contracts for Statewide Natural Resource Concerns which can be in any Congressional District in the state.

Source: FSA Recordset type01, data through 4th quarter FY2000

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